

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—May I know how many?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—594 cases in the villages.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—May I know whether they come under the Cranganur jurisdiction or outside?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—They are outside.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Is not Cranganur a centre for non-municipal vaccination?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—It is.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Won't there be a separate vaccinator for that place?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—There was one, but there was an urgent call from those two villages and this person was sent out for a few days.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—May I know whether there was any resolution from the Methala Panchayat that a separate hand might be appointed by the Government for vaccination work?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—A resolution has been received.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—May I know what action has been taken?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—It has been forwarded to the D. P. H. to take action.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—May I know when you hope to do it?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—It has been received only a week ago and action will be taken.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—How many of those who died were vaccinated?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I want notice.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Haven't you already answered that none was vaccinated?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—That is during the period mentioned in the question.

Roads maintained by the P. W. D. not thrown open to all castes.

420. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to mention the roads the maintenance of which is being looked after by the P. W. D. but not thrown open for the use of all castes and communities?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Please see the answer to the question No. 248 of the Kumbham meeting of the Legislative Council.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—May I know whether the roads within the Trippunthura forts are looked after by the P. W. D.?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The P. W. D. looks after those roads but does not spend any Government money.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know whether the Government has in mind the representations made by this House regarding the desirability of printing the actual answer without giving a reference? Such a representation was made on a former occasion and Government promised to consider it.

President.—You made the representation to the Government or the Chair?

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—It was made in the House and the Government promised to consider the matter.

President.—It will be looked into.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—May I know who placed these officers to look after the roads?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The Government.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—May I not therefore take it that Government spends money on these roads by way of supervision charges?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I am not sure whether we are charging anything for supervising these works. Generally all contribution works include supervision charges also.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Was not Government money spent to construct these roads originally?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—By simply maintaining roads by other money, will it be made non-public? Were those roads acquired for the Devaswam Department by the Government? Are not these roads still public?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—It is not maintained out of public funds.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Are they not constructed by Government money?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—We have to look into the past records.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Therefore it is still public.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—It does not follow.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Were they not originally maintained out of public money?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—They were once maintained.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—What was the reason for transferring these roads to the Devaswams?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Due to the representations made by this Council.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Was any representation made in this Council to transfer the maintenance of these roads to the Devaswams?

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—A representation was made that it should not be maintained out of public funds.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Was the representation to throw it open to all or not to maintain it out of public funds?

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—The representation was made that the roads not open to all should not be maintained out of public funds. May I know who are the proprietors of these roads?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The Devaswom. It seems to be an abstruse legal question.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—The legal authority may answer under whom the ownership is vested.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—It is difficult for me to answer this question without knowing the origin of these roads, etc.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Do the Government know the origin of these roads?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I cannot answer it off-hand. I want notice.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Does the Government get any tax on the land covered by these roads?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I do not think there is any tax levied.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—May I know whether this House had not made representations to the Government that these roads should be thrown open to all?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Government understood that the representation was that no Government money should be spent upon roads not thrown open to all.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Was there not a motion passed that all roads that are maintained by the Government should be thrown open to the public?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—We did not take it in that way but that all roads maintained out of public funds should be thrown open to all.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Did they look into the Council Proceedings when they answered this question?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—What did the Government see in that?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Government understood it to mean that all roads maintained out of State funds should be thrown open to all.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Hon'ble Member show the particular passage which interpreted that meaning?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I want notice.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Are they not public roads? Do these roads come under the category of public roads?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—It is a legal question, Sir. The Member will kindly explain the word public roads. So far as this Department is concerned; public roads are those which are maintained out of public funds.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—I want the Government to answer whether these roads come under the category of public roads?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I want notice.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Which classes are not allowed to use these roads?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I cannot say off-hand the names of all the backward and depressed classes.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Are they Hindus?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I do not know.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Are non-Hindus allowed to use these roads?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Is the Hon'ble Member for North Ezhuvass a Hindu?

President.—That is a personal affair.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Has he ever used that road?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I do not know.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Are the Government aware that the Hon'ble Member for North Ezhuvass used these roads?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I cannot say for certain.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Did the Government take any action for his using that road? As a matter of fact Government is aware that this road was used by the Member for North Ezhuvass.

President.—You can put a detailed question next time. The Chief Engineer has no information.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—May I ask the Hon'ble Member whether in answer to Q. No. 48 Government have not stated that they have thrown open all roads maintained out of public funds?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes, all roads maintained out of public funds. It was meant by that answer that all roads maintained out of public funds are thrown open to all classes.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Taking that Government have now stated that roads are maintained and being looked after by the P. W. D., are they not aware that it follows that the roads within the forts are thrown open to all classes?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—By this question we meant that we were asked whether all the roads maintained out of public funds are thrown open to all.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Hon'ble Member read the answer to Q. No. 248?

President.—That question has no reference here.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Have the Government any idea to throw open these roads to the backward and depressed classes of His Highness the Maharaja?

President.—That is a question which has to be considered separately.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Not at present.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The answer to Q. No. 248 is 'so far no roads which are not thrown open to all classes and communities are maintained by the Government from public funds'.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—That is the answer given to 420. Do the Government consider that in that case the roads which are looked after by the P. W. D. should be thrown open to the public?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—When we referred to the answer to Q. 248 we thought that both the questions were identical.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—When the representation was made in the Council that all roads should be thrown open to all, was not that road also included in it, being maintained from public funds?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Did not the Government notice these words in the question, 'maintained and looked after by the P. W. D.'?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—It was not quite clear. We thought it to have the same meaning as your previous question. If the present question is only to know whether the P. W. D. is looking after any road which is not open to all, then we say that it is looking after the Trippunittura fort road also.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—In view of the light now thrown upon the question, will the Government be pleased to state whether that is the correct answer to the question?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—As now explained by the Member.....

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—It is printed there.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—These roads are maintained by the P. W. D. but not from public funds. Even now we do not consider that our answer is wrong.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state the names of the roads which are looked after by the P. W. D. and not thrown open to all?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The Trippunittura Fort road.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Is there any such road in Irinjalakuda?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—No.

Measures to improve marketing of State produce.

421. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to inform what steps have been taken by the Government to explore all possible avenues in order to improve the marketing of our produce both within the State and outside it?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—So far nothing has been done.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—May I know why nothing has been done so far?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—If the Hon'ble Member wants me to explain all the incidents and accidents of history, it is not possible. The question has come to me only very recently and therefore there was no occasion to consider this question at all.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Did not the distress of the agriculturists come before the attention of the Government as early as the first budget session of the new Council?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I am unable to enlighten the Hon'ble Member. With regard to the distress I may state that from time to time the facts about distress have been brought to the notice of the Government and relief measures have been undertaken.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Is not action in this line a relief to the distressed agriculturists and is it not an urgent problem?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—In my opinion it is.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Whether the relief suggested herein won't reduce the distress of the agriculturists?

President.—That is a matter of opinion.

Mr. I. N. Menon.—What is the relief pointed out here?

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—That action should be taken to increase the price of agricultural produce.

Mr. I. N. Menon.—The question is whether this would be one means of solving the problem. Certainly it is.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—So will the Government be pleased to consider urgently and take action upon it?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—In an answer to another question put by the Hon'ble Member himself it is pointed out that these things will be looked into when the economic survey is carried out and all possible and suitable remedies adopted.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Have you invented this economic survey to postpone issues and to bring it as an excuse whenever information is asked for here?